

Prayer for the Beginning of a New Year of Ministry

Call to Prayer: On June 11, as a special part of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Bishops of the United States consecrated our own nation to the incredible love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Prayers to the Sacred Heart have continually developed over many years following the apparitions of the Sacred Heart to Saint Margaret Mary in the 17th century. Many Popes have praised this beautiful devotion and have also encouraged the practice of the consecration of self and home and entire countries to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

As we begin a new year of ministry, let us consecrate ourselves and all whom we will serve to the compassionate and merciful Sacred Heart of Jesus. May our hearts mirror the loving Heart of Jesus in all we say and do this year.

Leader: May the Heart of Jesus, burning with love for us...

All: Inflame our hearts with love for Him.

Hymn: Open My Eyes - Verses 1, 2, 3

Antiphon: "The Heart of Jesus beats for every person; make yours beat with His." Saint Carlo Acutis

Sacred Heart Psalm (Please pray antiphonally)

*O Divine Beloved, come and set my heart ablaze
with the fire of your love.

*Inflame my heart and prayers as you did for your
chosen son, Jesus. His holy heart was constantly on
fire with a consuming love for you, His God.

*Envelop me in your flaming Spirit that my lukewarm
prayers and acts may spring alive with the
fire of faith.

*Make my heart, like the heart of Christ, burn with
compassion for the outcast, with comfort for the
lonely and all who are in need.

*May my heart thus formed in the pattern of
His Sacred Heart become a fiery furnace where
the Kingdom will be forged, the age of peace and
justice.

*Grant this prayer in the name of your Son,
who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, forever and ever.

(Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim by Edward Hayes)

Reading: First Letter of John 4: 7 - 11

Silent Reflection

Intercessions

Leader: Today, we consecrate ourselves and our ministry to
the Sacred Heart of Jesus. With the words of the
Litany of the Sacred Heart, we ask for blessings
on all whom we will serve and all who are in need of
our prayers today.

Our Response will be: **HEART OF JESUS, HEAR US.**

Reader: That the *Heart of Jesus, aflame with love for us*, will embrace Pope Leo XIV, all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons and continue to mold them into loving and compassionate shepherds, we pray ...

That the *Heart of Jesus, source of justice*, will embolden all the leaders of the world to work for justice and peace, we pray...

That the *Heart of Jesus, patient and full of mercy*, will strengthen and heal all who are suffering in any way, we pray...

That the *Heart of Jesus, King and Center of our hearts*, will enkindle within each of our hearts the desire to always keep "Jesus as the Center and Mary as the Model" of our lives, we pray...

Closing Prayer: Pope Leo XIV's Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

(Together) Lord, I come to your tender heart today,
to you who have the words that set my heart ablaze,
to you who pour out compassion on the little ones and the poor,
on those who suffer, and on all human miseries.
I desire to know you more, to contemplate you in the Gospel,
to be with you and learn from you
and from the charity with which you allowed yourself
to be touched by all forms of poverty.
You showed us the Father's love by loving us without measure
with your divine and human heart.
Grant all your children the grace of encountering you.
Change, shape, and transform our plans,
so that we seek only you in every circumstance:
in prayer, in work, in encounters, and in our daily routine.
From this encounter, send us out on mission,
a mission of compassion for the world
in which you are the source from which all consolation flows.

Blessing: (Together) Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make our hearts
like unto Thine. Amen.

